

Who Should Test Online?

As with any accommodation for assessment, appropriateness is always based on disability (or limited English proficiency) and continuous use during instruction. The vast majority of students who take the Kentucky Core Content Test (KCCT) in the online environment do so because they regularly use a text reader (i.e. Read & Write Gold) in the classroom. However, there are other scenarios in which it may be an appropriate accommodation for students with special needs.

Examples:

- The student who is blind and uses JAWS or another screen reader to access content on the computer
- The student who has low vision and uses a screen magnifier (i.e. ZoomText) to access content on the computer
- The student with ADHD who is severely distracted by multiple stimuli and is able to attend to tasks better through the computer because questions are presented one at a time, or a highlighting tool (Read & Write without audio) is used to focus on the text
- The student with a disability in written expression who uses the writing supports of a word processor or assistive technology as a means of answering open ended questions during instruction
- The EBD student who accesses the curriculum through the computer as an alternative to human interactions with a resulting reduction in anxiety and/or emotional outbursts
- The student with limited English proficiency who uses a word-to-word translation and/or text-to-speech tool to independently read text in English
- The student with a physical impairment who accesses the curriculum or produces written work through the computer in order to minimize fatigue or allow for a level of independence unachievable without the computer

Non-examples: (situations that would not be appropriate)

- The student with reading comprehension issues who understands written text better with self-vocalization or adult/peer reader rather than synthetic voice
- The student who, after accessing the online practice tests, is extremely anxious over using technology to take the KCCT
- The staff (teacher or administrator) of any school making a decision for students with special needs that ALL will or will not test online (the determination of online assessment as an accommodation is ALWAYS based on individual needs of the students)

This is not an exhaustive list, but is intended to help guide the discussion of the ARC.